

Amendment to the Claims

1. (Cancelled) An air duct for a motor vehicle air dryer comprising:

an outer shell having an inner surface;

a porous, fluid permeable lining on said shell inner surface, said lining defining an inner surface; and

5 a relatively rigid mesh interior of said lining retaining said lining in said shell.

2. (currently amended) An air duct as defined in claim 1 wherein said outer duct shell is fabricated from a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, aluminum, rigid plastic and glass fiber plastic.

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3. (currently amended) An air duct as defined in claim 1 wherein said porous layer lining is open cell polyurethane foam.

4. (currently amended) An air duct as defined in claim 1 wherein said porous layer lining is rock wool.

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5. (currently amended) An air duct as defined in claim 4 wherein said rock wool layer lining is retained by expanded glass fiber cloth mesh.

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6. (currently amended) An air duct as defined in claim 1 wherein said relatively rigid mesh is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel mesh, galvanized steel mesh,

painted steel mesh, aluminum mesh, and plastic mesh.

7. (previously presented) An air intake duct for a motor vehicle air dryer, comprising:
an outer cylindrical duct having an air inlet end and an air outlet end and defining an
inner surface and a cylindrical longitudinally extending air passage having a center axis;

an intermediate sleeve removably positioned within said outer duct adjacent the inner
5 surface thereof and comprising an inner rigid, expanded mesh cylindrical sleeve and an outer
porous sleeve contained and supported on its inner surface by said mesh sleeve and having its
outer surface engaging the inner surface of said outer cylindrical duct, said inner mesh sleeve
having an inlet end and an outlet end corresponding to the inlet and outlet ends respectively of
said outer duct;

10 annular end channels mounted at the inlet and outlet ends of said mesh sleeve for
supporting said porous sleeve and having an outer radial dimension corresponding to the internal
diameter of said outer duct for supporting said intermediate sleeve therein;

an inner longitudinally extending sleeve positioned coaxially in said intermediate sleeve,
said inner sleeve having inner and outer spaced apart wire mesh sleeves defining an annular
15 chamber;

an annular porous sleeve retained in said annular chamber;

end caps covering the ends of said inner sleeve; and

brackets extending between said end caps and said annular end channels supporting said
inner sleeve on said intermediate sleeve;

20 said outer duct defining a plurality of perforations adjacent the inner end thereof forming

intake air passages.

8. (currently amended) An air intake duct for a motor vehicle air drying apparatus comprising:

an outer cylindrical duct defining an inner surface; and

a removable cylindrical sleeve including:

5 a porous layer adjacent said duct inner surface and defining an inner surface;

an outer rigid expanded mesh lining said inner surface of said porous layer and retaining said porous layer; and

an inner cylinder mounted within said sleeve and extending coaxially therein in said duct and having an outer surface spaced radially inwardly from said outer expanded metal mesh; said cylinder comprising a porous layer defining an outer surface and an outer expanded metal mesh surrounding and supporting said cylinder porous layer and defining said outer surface of said inner cylinder.

9. (currently amended) An air intake duct as defined in claim 8 further comprising a plurality of radially extending brackets extending between said inner cylinder and said outer expanded mesh and supporting said inner cylinder in said sleeve duct.

10. (previously presented) An air intake duct as defined in claim 8 wherein said outer cylindrical duct defines a foraminous section adjacent its inlet end.

11. (previously presented) An air intake duct as defined in claim 10 further comprising a plate closing said inlet end below said foraminous section.

12. (Cancelled) An air dryer for motor vehicles, comprising:

an air intake section;

a blower section mounting a motor driven fan;

a transition section; and

5 an outlet section having a plurality of discharge nozzles for directing air towards a motor vehicle for drying the same.

13. (Cancelled) An air flow chamber wall for attenuating noise resulting from air flow turbulence, comprising:

a rigid wall formed of sheet material;

a layer of air permeable porous material on said wall material; and

5 an expanded rigid mesh material on said air permeable material layer.

14. (Cancelled) A wall as defined in claim 13 wherein said rigid wall material is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, aluminum and plastic.

15. (Cancelled) A wall as defined in claim 13 wherein said air permeable material is open celled polyurethane foam.

16. (Cancelled) A wall as defined in claim 13 wherein said air permeable material is rock wool.

17. (Cancelled) A wall as defined in claim 13 wherein said rigid mesh is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel mesh, galvanized steel mesh, painted steel mesh, aluminum mesh and plastic mesh.

18. (currently amended) A method of attenuating the noise of air flow in the intake section of an air dryer for motor vehicles, comprising:

inserting into said intake section a removable cylindrical sleeve including an outer layer of porous material and an inner layer of porous material spaced radially inwardly of said
5 outer layer.

19. (previously presented) A method as defined in claim 18 further comprising supporting said layers of porous material with rigid, stiffly flexible, expanded mesh layers.

20. (previously presented) A method as defined in claim 19 further comprising supporting said layers of porous material and rigid expanded mesh layers with radial panels of porous material extending therebetween.

21. (previously presented) An air intake duct as defined in claim 7, further comprising a plate affixed to the outer duct below the intake air passages for closing the inlet end of said outer

duct to prevent introduction of water thereinto.

22. (new) A method as claimed in claim 18 further comprising:

removing the removable cylindrical sleeve from the intake section, and

inserting another removable cylindrical sleeve into said intake section.